

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:
a mounting portion on which a cartridge having
at least some of members necessary for image forming
5 and a storage part and detachably attachable to image
forming apparatuses of different features is mounted;
and

a control part for judging an interchange time
of the cartridge according to information stored in
10 the storage part;

wherein the storage part has a storage area for
storing therein information regarding a used amount
is each feature of said image forming apparatuses,
and said control part judges the interchange time of
15 the cartridge in conformity with the information of
the used amount in the each feature stored in the
storage area of the storage part.

2. An image forming apparatus according to
20 Claim 1, wherein said control part requires
information for judging the interchange time of the
cartridge according to information regarding a used
amount in its own feature stored in the storage part
and information obtained by converting information
25 regarding a used amount in the other feature than its
own.

3. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein the storage part further has a storage area for storing therein information regarding a threshold value conformity to an upper
5 limit of the used amount in each feature, and said control part compares the information for judging the interchange time of said cartridge and the information regarding said threshold value with each other, and judges whether the cartridge has reached
10 the interchange time thereof.

4. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein the storage part further has a storage area for storing therein history information
15 indicating that said cartridge has reached the interchange time thereof, and said control part, when it judges that the cartridge has reached the interchange time thereof, writes into the storage area for storing the history information therein
20 history information indicating that the cartridge is at the interchange time thereof.

5. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the information regarding the used
25 amount is the number of recorded sheets in said image forming apparatus.

6. An image forming apparatus according to
Claim 1, wherein said members necessary for image
forming are an image bearing member, a charging
member for charging said image bearing member, a
5 cleaning apparatus for cleaning said image bearing
member, and a developing apparatus for supplying a
developer to said image bearing member.

7. An image forming apparatus according to
10 Claim 1, wherein said image forming apparatus of
different features are image forming apparatuses
differing from each other in a conveying interval
between transferring materials on which image forming
is effected.

15

8. An image forming apparatus according to
Claim 6, wherein said image forming apparatuses of
different features are image forming apparatuses
differing in a charging process by said charging
20 member from each other.

9. An image forming apparatus according to
Claim 6, wherein said image forming apparatuses of
different features are image forming apparatuses
25 having a transferring member for bringing a recording
member into contact with said image bearing member,
and differing in the contact pressure of said

transferring member from each other.

10. A cartridge having at least some of members
necessary for image forming and a storage part, and
5 detachably attachable to mounting portions of image
forming apparatuses of different features having a
control part for judging an interchange time of said
cartridge in conformity with information stored in
said storage part, wherein said storage part has a
10 storage area for storing therein information
regarding a used amount in each feature.

11. A cartridge according to Claim 10, wherein
said storage part further has storage areas for
15 storing therein information regarding threshold
values conforming to upper limits of the used amounts
in said image forming apparatuses of different
features.

20 12. A cartridge according to Claim 10, wherein
said storage part further includes a storage area for
storing therein history information indicating that
said cartridge has reached an interchange time.

25 13. A cartridge according to Claim 10, wherein
said members necessary for image forming are at least
an image bearing member, a charging member for

charging said image bearing member, a cleaning apparatus for cleaning said image bearing member, and a developing apparatus for supplying a developer to said image bearing member.

5

14. A cartridge according to Claim 10, wherein the information regarding said used amount is the number of recorded sheets in said image forming apparatuses of different features.

10

15. A cartridge according to Claim 10, wherein said image forming apparatuses of different features are image forming apparatuses differing from each other in a conveying interval between transferring materials on which image forming is effected.

15

16. A cartridge according to Claim 13, wherein said image forming apparatuses of different features are image forming apparatuses differing in a charging process by said charging member from each other.

20

17. A cartridge according to Claim 13, wherein said image forming apparatuses of different features are image forming apparatuses having a transferring member for bringing a recording member into contact with said image bearing member, and differing in the contact pressure of said transferring member from

25

each other.

18. A storage medium carried on a cartridge
having at least some of members necessary for image
5 forming and a storage part, and detachably attachable
to the mounting portions of image forming apparatuses
of different features, said storage medium having a
storage area for storing therein information
regarding a used amount in each feature.

10

19. A storage medium according to Claim 18,
further having storage areas for storing therein
information regarding threshold values conforming to
the upper limits of used amounts in said image
15 forming apparatuses of different features.

20. A storage medium according to Claim 18,
further having a storage area for storing therein
history information indicating that said cartridge
20 has reached an interchange time.

21. A storage medium according to Claim 18,
wherein said members necessary for image forming are
at least an image bearing member, a charging member
25 for charging said image bearing member, a cleaning
apparatus for cleaning said image bearing member, and
a developing apparatus for supplying a developer to

said image bearing member.

22. A storage medium according to Claim 18,
wherein said image forming apparatuses of different
5 features are image forming apparatuses differing from
each other in a conveying interval between
transferring materials on which image forming is
effected.

10 23. A storage medium according to Claim 21,
wherein said image forming apparatuses of different
features are image forming apparatuses differing in a
charging process by said charging member from each
other.

15 24. A storage medium according to Claim 21,
wherein said image forming apparatuses of different
features are image forming apparatuses having a
transferring member for bringing a recording member
20 into contact with said image bearing member, and
differing in the contact pressure of said
transferring member from each other.